

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB/ITP/EWT/RBWRIGHT:TLW

APPROVED BY EB/ITP/EWT/RBWRIGHT

C - MR. SHINN

EUR/SOV - MR. COLBERT

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S/S - MR. LUERS

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R 051739Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 026228

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, US, EEWT

SUBJECT:OFFER TO TRY TO OBTAIN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
SUPPORT FOR TRADE LEGISLATION

REF: PARIS 2526

1. WE APPRECIATE SALANS' INTEREST IN STIMULATING POSSIBLE
ABA SUPPORT FOR REVISED EAST-WEST TRADE LEGISLATION. HIS
JANUARY 20 ARTICLE WAS A FIRST RATE REALISTIC ANALYSIS AND
HE WOULD BE A KNOWLEDGEABLE ADVOCATE IN ANY FORUM ON THIS
ISSUE.

2. SECRETARY'S STATEMENT OF JANUARY 14 MADE CLEAR THE
ADMINISTRATION REGARDS AN ORDERLY AND MUTUALLY BENE-
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FICIAL TRADE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION AS AN

IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN OVERALL IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS AND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL QUOTE CONTINUE TO PURSUE ALL AVAILABLE AVENUES FOR SUCH AN IMPROVEMENT, INCLUDING EFFORTS TO OBTAIN LEGISLATION THAT WILL PERMIT NORMAL TRADING RELATIONSHIPS UNQUOTE.

3. THE SECRETARY ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSULT WITH THE CONGRESS TO SEE HOW THE OBJECTIVES OF THE TRADE ACT CAN BE APPLIED TO THE SOVIET UNION UNDER CONDITIONS THAT ARE PERHAPS MORE ACCEPTABLE. HOWEVER NO DECISIONS HAVE YET BEEN MADE AS TO FORM OR TIMING OF

POSSIBLE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS AND WE COULD NOT ENGAGE IN ANY SPECULATIONS ON THIS.

4. GIVEN SALANS' BACKGROUND AND INTEREST WE COULD ARRANGE TO MEET WITH HIM PROVIDED IT IS UNDERSTOOD WE ARE NOT AT A POINT OF EXAMINING SPECIFIC LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OR STRATEGY. HOWEVER, NONE OF THE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS ADDRESSED REFTEL WILL BE IN WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 10 AND 11. WE COULD ARRANGE A SESSION WITH OTHER APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS IF SALANS IS COMING TO WASHINGTON IN ANY EVENT AND WISHES US TO DO SO, BUT YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR WE ARE NOT AT POINT WHERE A TRIP SOLELY FOR DISCUSSING EAST-WEST LEGISLATION WOULD BE WARRANTED. WE WOULD ADVISE AGAINST WIDER CONSULTATION OUTSIDE DEPARTMENT AT THIS TIME. KISSINGER

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